

RFP #13-029

Community Services Initiative

Summary

BACKGROUND:

Frederick County, Maryland is seeking proposals from qualified firms for the provision of various services, identified in a 2011 Frederick County Human Needs Assessment and through its knowledge of existing community services, to the citizens of Frederick County, Maryland in accordance with the terms, conditions and specification of this solicitation.

The Citizen Services Division (CSD) of Frederick County Government recognizes that there are a variety of human needs, beyond the services provided by the division, which need to be addressed and is therefore inviting proposals from non-profit, government, and for-profit providers with the current capacity to deliver services within the boundaries of Frederick County, Maryland.

STATEMENT OF WORK:

The County intends to accept proposals for each Category of service as stated herein on an annual basis throughout the life of the contract. On the date of renewal of the contract, and prior to renewal of the existing Contractors, all documentation provided (certifications, insurance, etc.) will be re-verified and new proposals from non-existing Contractors will be accepted for review and possible inclusion, depending on qualifications. Renewals will be dependent upon allotted/approved funding.

The Division of Citizen Services is inviting proposals for the following service Categories ranked in levels of priority:

2.3.1 Level A= First Priority of Need:

2.3.1.1 Systems Navigation for Vulnerable Populations - Provide increased case management for each of the following populations: senior citizens (low income and/or disabled), homeless individuals/families, and/or people with mental illness. This should be in addition to case management that is already provided to individuals in this county.

2.3.1.2 Information and Referral (I&R) System for Human Services – Human services information changes rapidly and the databases of Frederick County programs need frequent updating for accuracy and timeliness in serving Frederick County citizens.

2.3.1.3 Emergency Shelter for Families – The community is in need of a 24-hour year-round emergency shelter where families can stay together (whole family units). For example, a non-profit/business could rehab/preserve an existing building or expand an existing facility using state and federal funds in addition to County funding.

2.3.1.4 Child Care Tuition Assistance – The provision of vouchers or cash assistance to help offset the difference between the child care tuition cost and what families can afford to pay. This is intended to assist the working poor in our community to afford quality child care programs, which help promote their children’s readiness to be successful in school and later life.

2.3.1.5 Shelter for Domestic Violence Victims – As with the emergency shelter for families, this program would provide safe shelter (new or expanded) for victims of domestic violence and supportive services such as counseling, legal aid, etc.

2.3.1.6 Affordable Health Care – A program providing access to regular, on-going health care for seniors, low income, and under/un-insured citizens, which could be addressed by a free health care clinic for chronic disease management, for example. Financial assistance for dental care and mental health care for these populations is also needed in this community.

2.3.2 Level B= Second Priority of Need:

2.3.2.1 Transitional Housing for the Homeless – Time limited housing for homeless families and individuals while they receive job training, counseling, etc.

2.3.2.2 Affordable Housing – Rental assistance for seniors and other low income individuals. Section 8 housing has a very long waiting list and vouchers/incentives for longer-term housing is becoming a very real need.

2.3.2.3 After School Supervision and Education for Youth – After school programs for older elementary and middle school youth providing meaningful engagement for youths in the afternoons and summertime (mentoring, recreation, education, etc.).

2.3.2.4 Senior and Disability Support Programs – These programs would provide low-cost rental housing for seniors and respite care for caregivers of older adults and adults with disabilities.

2.3.2.5 Vocational/Apprentice Programs for At-Risk Youth – Vocational training programs for youths after high school that would assist youths transitioning from foster care.

2.3.3 Level C= Third Priority of Need:

2.3.3.1 Quality Child Care Services – Direct assistance to child care providers for training and equipment, based on attainment of state accreditation status.

2.3.3.2 Senior Center Services – Assistance for non-County senior centers (Thurmont, Walkersville, Middletown, Johnsville, and Mount Pleasant) is not currently supported within the County government system.

2.3.3.3 Legal Services –Representation and legal advice for low-income citizens. Contractors providing these services shall be licensed to practice law in the State of Maryland.